



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

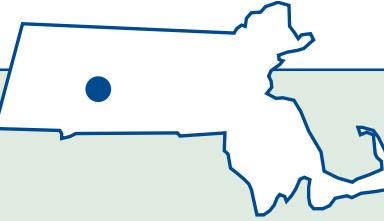
*Massachusetts
Highway Department,
Northampton, MA*

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Massachusetts Highway Department was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Located along the Connecticut River in western Massachusetts, Northampton (population 28,978) is the county seat for primarily rural Hampshire County. It is a city challenged with underemployment and low wages rather than unemployment. Fifty-one percent of households in Northampton are considered economically distressed. The average wage is 59 percent of the state's average. Northampton is home to numerous identified and suspected brownfields sites. The



Cleanup Grant

New
2006

\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Massachusetts Highway Department for a brownfields cleanup grant. Petroleum grant funds will be used to clean up a gasoline plume at the Staab's Service Station site, a former gas station located along Pleasant Street in Northampton. In 1988, more than 12 inches of free-phase gasoline was detected floating on groundwater under the Pleasant Street roadway. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Massachusetts Highway Department, MA
413-582-0507

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

proposed cleanup site, the former Staab's Service Station, is in a mixed-use commercial and residential neighborhood along the southern gateway to the city, where 68 percent of households are economically distressed. There are three low-income subsidized housing complexes within 1,000 feet of the site. The historic Mill River channel, a flowing stream, is a sensitive receptor within 400 feet of the site. Petroleum contamination from this site continues to migrate onto adjacent privately owned parcels, as well as impacting the viability of existing businesses, depressing property

values, and inhibiting revitalization and new development along the corridor. Cleanup of the site will help eliminate the potential threat from gasoline vapors and enhance the Mill River and other private cleanup efforts in the neighborhood. Brownfields redevelopment is expected to help increase the viability of existing businesses, increase property values, and create new jobs in this distressed community.